दौरान बिहार में विद्युत् की उपलब्धता 5243 मि. यू. थी और अप्रैल, 93 से नवम्बर, 93 के दौरान 3837 मि. यू. रहा है। विद्युत् उपलब्धता में सुधार हो सकता है यदि राज्य बिजली बोर्ड अपने विद्युत् उत्पादन केन्द्रों के कार्य निष्पादन में सुधार करते हैं।

SETTING UP OF REGULATORY COMMISSIONS FOR CORRECT PRICING OF POWER

2665. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 10th Finance Commission has suggested the setting up of regulatory commissions at the Central and regional levels for the correct pricing of power; and

(b) what is the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The report of the 10th Finance Commission is stated for submission to the President of India by 30th June, 1994.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

PRIVATE SECTOR ASSISTANCE TO SCBs

2666. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Electricity Boards have been permitted to contract private sector assistance through bilateral negotiations and if so, whether in the absence of any competition, bilateral negotiations are not yielding the optimum results in terms of cost per kwh;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to introduce competitive bidding system in power sector too; and

(c) whether Government consider organising training courses for the SEB officials for appraisal and exaluation based on sound economic criteria ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) State Governments, assign power projects to private companies. Accordingly they decide on the procedure for entrusting implementation of power projects to private companies. Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the notifications issued thereunder lay down the basis on which tariff is to be determined for both licensee and generating companies. The procedure evolved for assiguing power projects to private companies does not preclude either invitation of bids from different private or assigning of projects to individual companies on the basis of negotiation. Ministry of Power have suggested to State Govts. that selection of private sector companies for specific projects could preferably be done through invitation of competitive bids for fully cleared projects.

(c) Yes, Sir.

FOREIGN INVESTORS RELUCTANT TO INVEST IN POWER SECTOR

2667. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite Government's repeated attempts there is no inflow of foreign investment in the power sector;

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof; and

(c) if not, what is the extent of foreign investment that has come into the power sector till now ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As on date, foreign private companies have shown interest to set up 33 power projects for 21289 MW costing Rs. 69471 crores.

POWER SHORTAGE

2668. SHRI DAVID LEDGER : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of overall power shortage in the country during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for such shortage; and

(c) what are the steps Government propose to take to increase the generation capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) During the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93, the overall percentage of energy shortage in the country was 7.9 per cent, 7.8 per cent and 8.3 per cent respectively.

(b) The main reasons for power shortage in the country were growth in demand out-stripping the growth in generation of power, constraints of funds with power utilities for capacity addition as well as for undertaking Renovation and Modernisation programme, unsatisfactory performance of some thermal power stations and Atomic Power Stations etc.

(c) In order to increase the generating capacity in the country, it is envisaged to add 30558 MW capacity during the 8th Plan. Various other measures being taken to improve the generation in the country from the existing plants include Renovation and Modernisation of old units, assistance to Electricity Boards in undertaking Plant. Betterment Programme supply of requisite quantity and quality of coal and natural gas, training of operation and maintenance personnel, strengthening of transmission and distribution system.

BIDS FOR VINDHYACHAL EXTENSION PROJECT

2669. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

SHRI PRAMOD MOHAJAN : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has changed its qualifying requirements for bidders for boiler contract of Rs. 1500 crores for Vindhyachal Extension Project to accommodate Italian Power Utiliy Anasaldo and ACC Babcock Ltd.;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for relaxation of conditions of eligibility to these two parties to enable them to bid for the contract; and

(c) the number of bids received so far from Indian and foreign parties and what are the names and details of such parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) Vindhyachal Extension is a World Bank financed project and Qualification requirements for it were to be fixed in consultation with the Bank. It was represented to the Bank that NTPC's Qualification requirement would exclude certain bidders. In order to generate competition, NTPC agreed with the World Bank to modify its Qualification requirements.

(c) Bids have been received for boiler from the following parties.

Indian Parties:

(i) M/s Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.

(ii) M/s ACC Babcock Ltd., India in Joint Venture with Foster Wheeler Engineering Corpn. USA.